

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 8-9 have been amended.

In the latest office action, the Examiner allowed claims 11-20. The Examiner also indicated that claims 1-10 would also be allowed if claims 1 and 9 were amended to correct certain informalities.

This has now been done. Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a "first predetermined thickness", bringing that claim into conformity with claims depending therefrom. Dependent claim 9 has been amended to recite "silicon oxynitride", consistent with parent independent claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants understand that all claims currently pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. Prompt issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is therefore respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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